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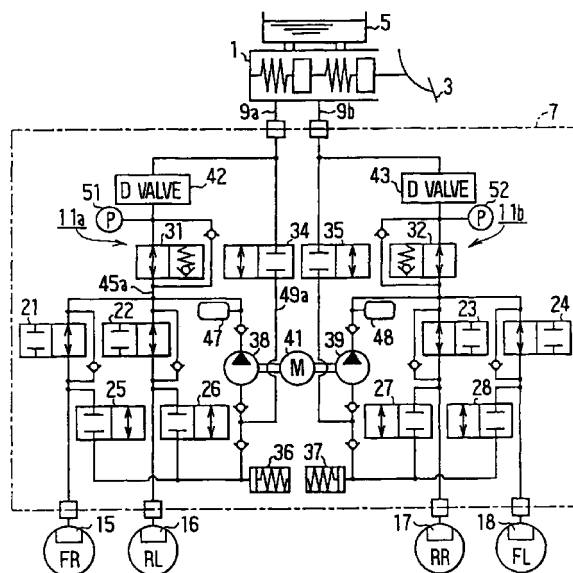
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(54) **Brake control apparatus for a vehicle**

(57) A pressure difference is formed between a master cylinder pressure and a wheel cylinder pressure when a master cut-off valve (31, 32) closes a hydraulic path connecting a master cylinder (1) and a wheel cylinder (15 to 18) and a hydraulic pump (38, 39) supplies pressurized brake fluid to the wheel cylinder (15 to 18). After the pressure difference has been formed, the master cut-off valve (31, 32) opens the hydraulic path so that the pressure difference is cancelled. As a result, pulsations in brake fluid pressure occurs in the hydraulic path. A failure of the master cut-off valve (31, 32) or the hydraulic pump (38, 39) is detected based on the pulsations in brake fluid pressure.

FIG. 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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| Place of search THE HAGUE | | Date of completion of the search 26 February 1999 | Examiner Meijs, P |
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